

55 Days til Christmas

Christians throughout the seven continents commemorate the birth of their Savior in countless ways. For some it is as we know it, but for others outside the United States, Christmas is celebrated quite differently. The 3rd through 8th grade PREP classes have each chosen a country to research. The students have already begun to learn about the religious customs and traditions of their chosen country and will continue to do so through Advent.

What kind of sound will we make in 55 days? Let me give you a glimpse: It is Christmas Eve; Snowing Outside; people are rushing to 3:30 Mass at the Parish Center. Our Youth choir is about to start caroling before the Mass. They are holding bells in their hands while the introduction is being played and then the beautiful sound fills the room "O Holy Night"!

Can you imagine our church during the Christmas season not decorated? Can you imagine singing "Joy to the World" in a church with no Christmas tree, poinsettias or manger scene? The worship of the church employs all our senses. What we see helps elevate our minds to what we believe. The Art and Environment of the worship space is essential. The many hands which help transform our church prior to the major liturgical seasons are such a blessing to the entire community. During the Christmas season we have 2 worship spaces to prepare; our church and our gym. Last year nearly 800 people came to the 3:30pm Christmas Eve liturgy. The beauty of our church and gym took our breath away. Thank you to the many who year after year contribute to the beauty of the season and the worship of the church.

Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus' coming to us on Christmas Day as a new born babe in the manger, so we prepare his church for his arrival. At St. Andrew we've followed the four R method: re-dust, re-polish, re-scrub and re-wax, for this holy and joyous Christmas Day.

Advent is a time of preparation, and includes the rich Scripture stories of John the Baptist, Mary, Elisabeth and Joseph each playing a role in making way for the birth of our Savior. It is a time when we share these stories, sometimes for the first time with our inquirers in RCIA, or those seeking to be part of our tradition. It is also a time to acquaint them with all the rich tradition. All of our practices help prepare us to again "make room in the inn" for Jesus in our hearts. It is also a time when the Wednesday morning Bible study prepares a brunch in conjunction with our annual prayer service, which usually lasts all morning. We all look forward to and spend much time preparing for this special day.

The Stewardship Committee is busily preparing for Christmas by co-hosting Winterfest, our family oriented community Christmas celebration. One of the highlights each year is the SASEAS School 3rd and 4th Grade Choir singing Christmas carols. Nothing lends itself more to preparing for Christmas than the sweet voices of young children singing of Jesus' birth. "Round yon Virgin Mother

and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace."

In preparation for Christmas, the Youth Group will be having a Christmas Outing on December 20. The location has not yet been decided, but in the past we have gone Ice Skating and to the Beach Waterpark's Holidayfest. After the outing, we will be preparing the luminaries that will be displayed on the grounds of St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishes on Christmas Eve. The luminaries really help to beautify the grounds during the special season. Different families volunteer to place and clean up the luminaries.

St. Andrew Parish Staff

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 2, All Souls Day

7:00 p.m. Poor Souls (Ann & Bob Rein)

Tuesday, November 3, St. Martin de Porres

7:30 a.m. Lucille Elsbernd (Don Edwards)

Wednesday, November 4, St. Charles Borromeo

7:30 a.m. Rita Leming (Ted Ringwald)

Thursday, November 5

7:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday, November 6

7:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Saturday, November 7

7:30 a.m. Special Birthday Intention for Mae Proffitt

5:15 p.m. Special 50th Wedding Anniversary for Barbara & George Baer

Sunday, November 8, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Anna K. Schreiber, Birthday Remembrance (Ed & Barb Schreiber)

9:30 a.m. Mom (Marlies)

11:00 a.m. People of St. Andrew Parish

SEM Villa

10:00 a.m. Flottemesch Family (Krimpenfort Family)

SEM Terrace

11:00 a.m. Jack Roth (Alice Rushing)

PRAYERS FOR

All of our hospitalized parishioners, shut-ins, nursing home residents and all the sick of our parish.

Remember in your prayers

our deceased family members, especially Tina Schmaltz's mother, Arlene Hale who died on Sunday, October 25. May the Lord provide comfort and healing to her family.

Vocation Views

The desire to be counted among those whose home is in heaven is the motivation to live life as a Christian. How is God calling you to be a saint in the world of today? (Revelation 7:24, 9-14)

In The News

The Rev. Ken Morman, Sunday Associate at St. Andrew, received the Athenaeum's Celebration of Teaching Award at graduation ceremonies October 18. With other college educators and award recipients, Father Morman was honored earlier this month by the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities at the annual Celebration of Teaching ceremonies at Cintas Center on the Xavier University campus.

About the Library...

If you missed the Library Open House, you can still visit the newly renovated Library in the Parish Office basement on Sunday mornings after each Mass. Bring your children. There

are books, videos, CD's and DVD's for them, too. Also, check out the Library Bookcase in the vestibule of Church for great Advent & Christmas reading. Christmas videos and musical CD's & DVD's are also available in the Library. Enhance your holidays with inspiring reading and joyful music.

SMILE Youth News

Help keep the feet of someone in need warm as the temperatures drop! The SMILE Chicago Mission trip team learned this summer that many people are in need of new socks and underwear. Often people go without because they must use their money for rent or food. The Youth Group is collecting new socks and underwear this weekend to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul after each of the Masses and the SMILE Meeting. All sizes are needed. Thank you in advance for your generosity

All 7th-12th grade students are invited to our SMILE Meeting this Sunday at 7pm in the Church Hall. If you have any questions, please call the Youth Office, 831-8318.

Chaperones are needed for our next Junior High dance, which will take place on Friday November 13. Please call the Youth Office, 831-8318 if you are able to volunteer.

Discover the "Big Picture" of the Bible

Every Sunday morning (thru November 15) from 10:45 am – 12 noon in the Parish Center Meeting Room join us for "The Great Adventure" Bible Timeline Video Study to get the "big picture" of the Bible story. This exciting study will take your understanding of the Scriptures and your faith to entirely new levels. All are invited to attend.

The Family Caregiver Group - Tuesday, November 3

from 7-8:30 pm in the Church Hall. This support group is sponsored by St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishes and the Caregiver Assistance Network. We discuss the needs of the person we care about and share ideas that might be helpful. We also talk about how important it is to take care of ourselves so we can care for others. Our meeting lasts about 1 1/2 hours. If you have questions or need more info please call Mary Schutte, 248-1055 or Marcy Schutte, 831-1516.

Bingo Parent Team #1 Workers Tuesday, November 3

Becker, Dundon, Grome, Koop, Limberg, Radloff, Shooner, Stahanczyk, Stanula & Veneziano

Adoration at St. Andrew Church, Wednesday, November 4

8 am-12 noon. Parishioners and non parishioners may come and adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament at anytime during those hours. If you are interested in being a scheduled adorer and committing to one specific hour once a month, please call or email: JoAnne Lacey: jolacey3@aol.com, # 831-1836 or Jerry O'Toole: jotoole@usavingsbank.com, # 368-6746. "Jesus made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration." Mother Teresa

Job-Workshop, Thursday, November 5

Do you need a job or a better job? Discover how to find the best jobs, how to start a job on the correct foot, and much more beginning at 7:00 pm in the Church Hall. There is no charge to join us. For questions, please call Chuck Limberg, 575-9001

Help Make Sleeping Bags for the Homeless

On Saturday, November 7, from 9 am – 12 noon in the Parish Center. We would like to make as many sleeping bags as possible before the cold weather sets in. No special talent is required. If you can tie your shoes, you can help assemble the sleeping bags. This is a wonderful opportunity for the entire family. Also, this is a great way for students to get service hours.

For questions, please contact Mary Schutte, 248-1055 or maryschutte@hotmail.com. Everyone welcomed. No RSVP required.

St. Andrew Bereavement Committee

is celebrating their annual Memorial Mass on Sunday, November 8 at the 11 am Mass for all parishioners who have died since October, 2008. Everyone is welcome to help us celebrate this annual Mass and the memorial ritual of lighting a candle for each deceased person. A reception will follow in the Church Hall.

Thank You to the Sponsor of the Week - JK Kar Kare, Inc.

Baptism Program

Sunday, November 8 at 12:30 pm in the Meeting Room of the Parish Center. This program is required for parents of children who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Andrew. Both parents are encouraged to attend, along with the Godparents. Many come before their child is born. Next session: January 10, 2010. If you will be attending the November program, please call the Parish Office.

Andrew Dinner

Young men of the parish who are interested in learning more about the vocation to the priesthood are invited to attend a dinner with Archbishop Schnurr on Wednesday, November 11 beginning at 5:30 pm in the Church Hall. You can register online at cincinnati vocations.org/upcoming_events.shtml, or by calling the parish office

St. Andrew-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton students

in grades 5-8 will be participating in National Make a Difference Day for the eleventh year on Saturday, November 14. We have about 100 students who are looking to help rake leaves in the yards of parishioners and community members who have trouble doing it themselves. If you know of anyone who could use our assistance, please call the St. Andrew Campus, 831-5277 and leave your information with the school office or 831-5277 x 211. We can't wait to make a difference!

Ladies Sodality News

Our annual Candlelight Dinner will be December 7 in the Parish Center. Gather your friends and make plans to join us. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend this enchanting evening in celebration of the Christmas season. Rosary begins at 5:40 with Mass at 6. Further details in this week's bulletin

Sharing God's Gifts: October 25 2009

We need an average of \$14,250 per week in our Sunday Collection

- Sunday Envelope Collection (343 used).....\$10,125.50
- Sunday Loose Collection.....\$524.36
- Dimes Collection.....\$12.50

WINTERFEST RAFFLE TICKETS – Don't forget to buy your Winterfest raffle tickets. TODAY we will have our first early bird drawing, and each Sunday in November one ticket will be drawn for an prize of \$100. The final drawing will be at the end of the day at Winterfest, December 5. First place is \$1,000; second place is \$500, and third place is \$250; just in time for Christmas gift buying. All proceeds will be divided between the SMILE Youth Group and the Preservation of the Church Fund. Extra tickets are in the Parish Office.

SCRIPS GIFT CERTIFICATES – As you are planning what to buy people on your Christmas gift list, keep in mind that we have gift certificates for over 200 companies. Additionally, we also sell gift certificates for local vendors: Lehr's Meats and Skyline Chili. You pay face value for the gift certificate, while St. Andrew earns a percentage of the cost, usually between 3% and 6%. We have a supply of the most popular gift certificates in the Parish Office, or you can pick up a form to place an order.

SASEAS Student Aid Form

Financial aid is available to those who apply before December 1, 2009 for the 2010-2011 school year. To see what is required, go to the school's website. Financial Aid forms are also available at both parish offices and campuses.

McNicholas High School theatre department presents the hilarious comedy *Noises Off!* Performances are Wed. Nov 4th – Sat. Nov 7th at 7:30pm at McNicholas. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$6.00 for students and can be purchased at the door.

Do you have an article for the bulletin? Submit to standy@cinci.rr.com. Deadline for submission is Monday at noon

Sunday, November 8

9:30 am & 11:00 am PREP Classes
9:30 am RCIA Meeting Room,
Parish Center
10:45 am Discover the "Big Picture" of the Bible MR,
Parish Center
11:00 am Memorial Mass and Reception to follow in Church Hall
12:30 pm Baptism Program Meeting Room,
Parish Center

The SMILE Youth Group
will be collecting new socks and underwear
this Weekend, October 31/November 1
to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul

**THIS WEEK IN OUR
PARISH**

Monday, November 2

6:00 pm Stewardship Committee
Parish Office
6:30 pm SASEAS School Alumni Committee
Church Hall
7:00 pm SASEAS Boosters Meeting Room,
Parish Center
7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
Parish Library

Tuesday, November 3

5:00 pm Children's Choir Practice
Church
7:00 pm BINGO (Team #1)
Parish Center
7:00 pm Caregivers Support Group
Church Hall
7:00 pm Christ Renews His Parish Women's #7
Andrew's House

Wednesday, November 4

8:00 am – 12:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATIONS
Church
9:30 am Bible Study Meeting Room,
Parish Center
7:00 pm Toastmasters Meeting Room,
Parish Center

Thursday, November 5

7:00 pm Choir Practice
Church
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
Parish Library
7:00 pm Christ Renews His Parish Men's Team #8
Andrew's House
7:00 pm Job Workshop
Church Hall

Friday, November 6

7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
Parish Library

Saturday, November 7

9:00 am Sleeping Bag Ministry Meeting Room,
Parish Center
9:00 am Welcome Connection
Parish Library
9:00 am Healing Touch Business Meeting
Church Hall